JUNE 2016

the WINDOW

Issue 6 Volume 14

Sunday Service Times: 10 AM Worship and 4 PM Jazz Vespers

PASTOR

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STAFF

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Denise Wirth, Finance Secretary 309-439-9740 Church Office financesecy@westminsterpeoria.org Hours: T, W, TH / 9am to 2pm

ELDERS

Session meets second Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m. monthly.

Don Bell, Properties
Jill Bell, Church Life
Carol Carlson, Membership
Mary Dill, Personnel
Brian Hakes, Clerk of Session
Suellen Kirkwood, Worship
Jeanie Olson, Finance
Elizabeth Richmond, Missions
Carole Willadsen, Christian Ed.

WICC ATTIC TREASURE SALE



ATTIC TREASURES SALE SATURDAY, JUNE 11 8 AM TO 3 PM

(held on same day as the Moss Avenue Sale & Festival Day

ome and browse our Attic Treasures and join us for a day filled with food, family fun for all ages, live music and lots of shopping!

All proceeds go to help the Westminster Infant Care Center (WICC).



AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

Toys, Bedding, Dishes, Tools, Outdoor Decorations, & Antiques

LECTIONARY WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Join us Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. as we dig deeper into God's truths that are revealed in His Word. The group delves into the historical context, literary style and theological issues of the next Sunday's lectionary texts to gain a deeper understanding of Sunday's worship.

LECTIONARY READINGS - JUNE

Third Sunday after Pentecost—June 5 1 Kings 17:8-16 [17-24]; Psalm 146; Galatians 1:11-24; Luke 7:11-17

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost—June 12 1 Kings 21:1-10 [11-14] 15-21a; Psalm 5:1-8; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7:36—8:3

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost—June 19
1 Kings 19:1-4 [5-7] 8-15a; Psalm 42 and 43; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost—June 26 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 1; Luke 9:51-62

WESTMARK FOOD PANTRY

by Elizabeth Richmond

During the month of April, we provided food to 1509 individuals. The partnership we have with St Mark's Church creates an amazing opportunity to help those that might otherwise be hungry. This makes for lots of work for our volunteers, but it is great to help hungry, grateful folks.

FOOD DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Delivery schedule is as follows:

Monday, June 6 at 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, June 7 at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, June 16 at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 21 at 11:30 a.m.



How can you help? Make food donations in the Narthex.

Help unload deliveries: every first and third Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. and the first Monday of the month at 1:15 p.m. and Thursday of the second full week of the month at 1:00 p.m.

We also can use some help this summer filling

in for our regular volunteers on Monday morning.

BI-MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

by Marilyn Luman

We do not meet during May and the summer months. Instead, we enjoy fellowship and would like YOU to join us. When there is a good movie in town, we will contact you by phone or email for a Meal and Movie night. We generally go to the late afternoon and pick a restaurant nearby. The "more the merrier" is our motto, so please call Pat Wagner or Marilyn Luman to get on the list.

FINANCE MEETING

The Finance Committee will meet Wednesday, June 15, at noon, in the Parlor. If you will not be able to attend or if you have any questions, please contact Jeanie Olson.

JAZZ VESPERS SURVEY

by Mary Lee Caudle

We want to know what your thoughts are on the Jazz Vespers service. Please take a moment and take this quick ten question survey. You can find the survey on the Jazz Vespers page of our website http://westminsterpeoria.org/music-arts/jazz-vesper-service/

If you have more to add to the survey, please feel free to email your suggestions, comments, and concerns to wpcpeoria@gmail.com

WESTMINSTER INFANT CARE CENTER

by Valerie Sager, WICC Director

WICC is looking for substitute van drivers, or those interested in working part-time as a van driver for the WICC van. This is perfect for a retiree or perhaps you are mission-minded and want to contribute to help teen parents get their education. If interested, contact Valerie at 674-6701 for details. The position would begin this August with flexible days and times. Thanks for your consideration.

ANNUAL "ATTIC TREASURES" SALE

By Jill Bell, Sale Chairperson

Have we mentioned that we are having a "BIG" sale! We are gearing up and getting excited to see what the people of this church and their friends send our way.

Please don't forget to ask family and friends if they have things they would like to donate. Last year I put this on Facebook and I had many of my friends donate. Plus they had no idea we even had this program, (WICC) Westminster Infant Care Center, available to teen moms. When they donate anything, I can give a receipt if they want it for tax purposes.

Here are some more suggestions of donations: china and crystal for the bride; games and puzzles; outdoor equipment; baby items, (i.e. strollers, bassinets, changing tables, high chairs, toys); art work; décor. Don't forget, it is always Christmas in June! We always tend to sell a lot of good Christmas items. Just a reminder, we have our Ladies Boudoir and our Father's Day table. Not sure, just ask, but more often than not you name it we'll take it!

Thank you for all your continued support. I can't tell you all how very important this is to this program.

If you have a big desire to help set up and price the week before the sale, let me know. Thanks Again! $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{G}}$

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PEORIA BACH FESTIVAL OPENS AT WESTMINSTER F CHURCH

E By Thomas Clark-Jones

T This year's Peoria Bach Festival celliphe its opening concert here at Westminster Presbyterian Church. A The Bach Festival has been a part of Peoria life for more than a dozen years, bringing some of the master's

greatest works to life. Martin Dicke of Trinity Lutheran Church and John Jost of Bradley University are the movers and shakers of this Festival, and between them have built a distinguished celebration of the works of Bach and his close associates.

The Festival always features a major organ recital since this was Bach's main instrument, and he

wrote a large opus for organ. We are particularly pleased to host this event of the Bach Festival since Westminster's magnificent organ is the most appropriate instrument in the area on which to play the works of Bach. Our instrument is built in the classic German tradition of mechanical key action and an enclosed free-standing instrument voiced with clarity and a genuine singing quality. Thus, coming together on this program is only logical.

The event is scheduled for Sunday evening, June 5 at 7:30 p.m. and features the internationally acclaimed organist James Kibbie. Dr. Kibbie is a native of Iowa and took his undergraduate degree at the University of North Texas at Denton, one of the country's top schools training organists. From there he went on to the University of Michigan earning Masters and Doctoral degrees from Michigan. Upon his graduation, he was invited to join the faculty at U of M and has continued there ever since. In recent years he has been Chair of this legendary organ school, succeeding Marilyn Mason, whose tenure exceeded fifty years. James continues that great tradition.

He has won major prizes in organ competitions across Europe and has recorded widely. His annual recital appearances include major venues in North America and Europe. James brings a torrential technique to the service of this great music. His reputation for nearly perfect execution of the great literature is legendary and there are few audiences not moved by his tremendous musicianship.

The program will feature the music of Bach, obviously. But Bach's output for the organ is so varied that a program will be anything but stagnant. As we take on this commitment to the Bach Festival, we hope that you will be particularly supportive of the effort. Make your plans now to be part of this great evening of music. Westminster participates in the Festival courtesy of the Gretchen R. Iben Fund and others who support the Iben Art Series throughout the year.

THANK YOU!

By Elizabeth Richmond

A huge THANK YOU to United Presbyterian Church for their recent super sized donation to the WestMark Food Pantry. Also a thank you Pat and Fred for going to United Presbyterian Church to pick up over 20 boxes of non-perishable foods. The WestMark Food Pantry is a great example of how when we all work together something much greater can come of our efforts.

By Brian Hakes, Clerk of Session

- ▲ Jessica Bell will be hired as an Administrative Director and Ryan Reed will serve as a camp counselor as well as teach art at the choir camp. School district 150 will provide the same dietary services as last year.
- ▲ A couple of more volunteers are need to help at the registration table for the Peace for Peoria town hall event in the Peoria Civic Center.
- ▲ Rev. Clark-Jones announced two outdoor jazz worship services are being planned for the summer.
- Central States Media has created another update of the Westminster website.
- ▲ \$81,000 has been drawn down from the development fund for budgeted expenses associated with air condition system for the Church and 1/2 of the total amount for the skylight repair.
- ▲ The May fourth Sunday luncheon will be a cook out.
- ▲ In March, the food pantry served over 1,509 people.

WICC is serving seven children all of whom are eligible to return next year.

- WICC has completed its licensure with the state.
- May 24th will be "The Streets Belong to Me" at the Proctor Center. The event is sponsored by the Proctor Center and the food is provided by the Peoria Police Department. Westminster will provide popsicles to youth that sign a pledge to resolve differences peacefully.
- The skylights will be replaced around Memorial Day.

Additional roof repair included replacing slate shingles will cost another \$1,600.

- The expense for having Dillon clear the debris over the outflow pipe and extending the pipe will be around \$3,000.
- ▲ The Hunter company has cleared the storm sewer system of debris.

Elder Kirkwood provided a sample survey that will administered asking congregant's questions about the Jazz Worship.

■ Respectfully,
Brian Hakes - Clerk of Session



ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Adele Fleming
- 4 John & Janet Avendano
- 4 Marcus & Ashley Foster
- 10 Dave & Carol Carlson
- 11 Robert & Betty Jean Oaks
- 12 Lynn & Michael Hedden
- 14 N. Lee & Edna Nugent
- 18 Steven Koch
- 18 Bonnie & John Jackson
- 24 Dewey & Sally Fitch
- 25 Gina Hawkins
- 25 Nelvie & Arlynn Anderson
- 25 Bruce & Janet Andrews
- 29 Donald & Cynthia Glover
- 29 Tom & Elizabeth Richmond
- 15 Doc & Frances Hammond

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jessica Case
- 4 Mary Dill
- 4 Karen Buenneke
- 8 Jean Osterman
- 9 Dewey Fitch
- 12 Donald Bell
- 13 Lesley Matuszak
- 15 Frances Hammond
- 15 Larry Hicks
- 17 Phil Nolan
- 19 Alma Fassett
- 19 Janet Andrews
- 21 Adele Fleming
- 26 Hettie Beers
- 26 Phyllis Rafferty
- 26 Nancee Dykstra

I SEE MYSELF!



NEWSLETTER SUB

If you have information you would like to submit for the next newsletter, please make your submissions for the

JULY EDITION to

Mary Lee at wpcpeoria@gmail.com by Friday,

JUNE 10, 2016

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM!

Submitted by Common Place

Common Place is once again asking for volunteer tutors for their Volunteer Adult Literacy Program. They are seeking individuals who are looking for an opportunity to tutor adult learners in reading and math, and improve the quality of life for their students. Every important social issue (poverty, health, employment, and housing) is impacted by low literacy. When individuals learn how to read, write, do basic math, and use computers, they have the power to lift themselves out of poverty, lower health care costs, find and keep sustainable employment, and ultimately change their lives. Common Place needs our help to make this happen!

The Adult Literacy Program staff at Common Place has scheduled a Tutor Training for individuals interested in helping adults acquire basic reading, math and writing skills. Volunteer tutors are paired with adult learners for a twice-weekly tutoring session at a time and place convenient to both the tutor and the student. Won't YOU join us? The Tutor Training Workshops will be Saturday June 18, and Saturday, June 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (both sessions will be held at Common Place.) There is no cost to receive this training. The trained tutor will be expected to commit to working with and adult learner for one year. Please contact Janette Sims at Common Place for more information and to sign up for the Volunteer Orientation and Training Sessions. Her phone number is (309) 674-3315.

It is through assisting adults in acquiring reading and math skills that we can help them attain a higher self-esteem, greater self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life.

JUMPING JEHOSHAPHAT!

By Jeanie Olson

Jumping Jehoshaphat! It is past the middle of May already. Westminster pays the first half of the Per Capita apportionment on June 30. The total amount for 2016 is \$5,992 so \$2,996 is due June 30. Last year at this time, 58 members had sent in their \$28 per capita payment. This year only 5 of us have done so. I admit it. I have missed the boat so far, too.

The Per Capita pays the administrative expenses of our three governing bodies: The Presbytery of Great Rivers, The Synod of Lincoln Trails, and the General Assembly.

The offices of the Presbytery of Great Rivers were at Westminster for many years. Now the office is located on Candletree Drive, Peoria. The Presbytery is the collective entity for the 98 churches within our boundaries. It helps the 98 congregations keep in touch with each other. The Presbytery committees oversee Ministerial activities and mission activities. The Presbytery helps to train elders and deacons. The Presbytery helps us relate to the Synod of Lincoln Trails and the General Assembly.

The Synod of Lincoln Trails is located in Indianapolis, Indiana. It is composed of the eight presbyteries in Illinois and Indiana. The Synod's mission is to develop, nurture and support leaders in partnership with our presbyteries and congregations and coordinate mission strategy within the Synod.

The offices of the General Assembly are located in Louisville, Kentucky. The programs are many and varied. The programs help all of us participate in the life of the wider church, and help us discern God's call in our lives.

I will be making my check payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church and putting Per Capita on the memo line. The amount is \$28 per member. Hope you will join me soon.

Jeanie Olson Finance Chair

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

We have updated our email addresses. Beginning June 1, each of the staff has their own email addresses so that you can direct your inquiries to the right department. These will be listed on our website for you to find when needed.

Staff

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones pastor@westminsterpeoria.org
Tom Clark-Jones music@westminsterpeoria.org

Denise Wirth **financesecy@westminsterpeoria.org**Patrick Flynn **buildings@westminsterpeoria.org**

Ashley Foster **office@westminsterpeoria.org**

Mary Lee Caudle communications@westminsterpeoria.org



PASSING THE PEACE IN PEORIA

By Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

On January 25 a group of Peoria clergy, Christian, Jewish and Muslim gathered at the Peoria City Hall to have their picture taken together, most in clerical dress, to show support for peace between the three Abrahamic faiths. The idea was the brain child of Imam Kamil Mufti. The picture was placed on billboards across the city. On March 8 the first "Peace for Peoria" event was held at the Islamic Foundation in Peoria where Imam Mufti serves. Over 700 people, Muslims, Jews and Christians gathered for the event to hear speakers and have a meal together. It has always been around the table, sharing a meal, where we drop our defenses and enjoy peace and reconciliation.

After the March 8 event, the pastors of four Presbyterian churches in the area, Westminster, First Federated, United, and Washington, began meeting together (around the table at Childer's on University Ave.) to plan a follow-up event which would delve deeper into the issues that have been used to vilify and discriminate against Muslims in this country. The vitriolic rhetoric that has been used to produce fear and prejudice against Muslims for political gain during this election year has fueled the flames of bigotry.

Each of the four Presbyterian churches applied for, and received, grants from the Presbytery and Synod to provide the core funding for this next "Peace for Peoria" event. Donations from area Peoria churches and the Peoria Interfaith Alliance added to the funding. On May 16 the event was held in the theater of the Peoria Civic Center. Again, over 700 people were in attendance. Special thanks to Janet Kelly, Mary Dill, and Joyce and Brian Hakes for serving as volunteers at the event!

This second event was in the style of a "Town Hall Question and Answer" meeting. Five panelists including a Jewish rabbi, two Protestant Christian pastors (one from what is popularly called an "Evangelical" church

and the other from a "Progressive" church) and the head of the Catholic OSF Medical Center answered questions that are often asked about the relationships between the three faiths. Although other faiths were not represented, the ideas presented and the approach to learning more and debunking dangerous myths about Islam, were those that speak to any minority that is "otherized" in our society.

One discussion related to the question, "Do we all worship the same God?" The rabbi, the imam and the Progressive Christian pastor all stated an unequivocal "Yes." The Evangelical pastor responded: 'Close enough to talk and get along.' This pastor's church is beside the Islamic Center and he and the imam are close personal friends. The imam went on to say that "according to the Old Testament Scriptures which each faith shares, we all believe in the one God of Abraham. End of discussion." This same kind of frank discussion touched on many issues Christians and Jews have raised relating to Islam in America at this volatile time in history.

In Luke's gospel, Jesus is asked by some religious experts to further explain his answer to the question: "What is the greatest Commandment?" The answer that most of us can quote from memory is: "To love God with all your heart, and soul, and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself." When Jesus was asked to further explain with the question: "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus responded with a story - the story of the Good Samaritan. Samaritans were considered heretical Jews. The religious leaders and their flock thought of Samaritans the way the Sunni's and the Shi'ites do in the warring Muslim countries today. In Jesus' parable, the three Jewish priests passed by on the other side of the road to avoid contact with a man who was lying there having been beaten and robbed. It was the Samaritan traveler that came to the injured man's aid with great compassion and generous aid. It seems to me that one of the "truths" Jesus was trying to tell was that we should not be focused on the doctrines of others' faith, but on how we live out and give witness to our own. It's hard for "neighbors" to feel Christ's love when a Christian is insulting, condemning or attacking them.

Words, whether spoken in conversation or shouted in the public square, can be dangerous weapons or instruments of healing. They can speak as much as we can discern about God's truth, or they can give voice to our own egos and primal fears. Though some may say that these two "Peace for Peoria" events were "preaching to the choir," I believe these types of gatherings are necessary and productive. Jesus taught us that we must stand up to powers that are unjust, oppressive and hateful. Jesus taught us that we must give special attention to including the excluded, welcoming the stranger (the dreaded "other") and lifting up the oppressed. Peoria, and the world, needs people of faith who live out God's will that we 'love our neighbors as ourselves.'

Peacemakers need to be armed with truth to dispel hateful and prejudicial myths. Trading insults will never produce peace or understanding. Peacemakers cannot encourage peace without speaking out against words and actions that promote conflict. For these reasons, I believe more events like these are needed. More open and frank discussions, not just on the issue of peace and tolerance among people of faith, but also other issues that contribute to enmity, injustice, and lack of respect for our "neighbors," are needed to make our communities "great!"

Yours in Christ, Pastor Denise

A SOURCE OF INFORMATION

By Mary Lee Caudle

There have been many changes done to our website since it first went live.

I continue to work on the website to make it a place you can go for information, see what events are coming up, and just to browse and read about the Westminster family.

Did you know that you can:

- -Keep up to date with the church calendar?
- -Download a BUF (building usage form)?
- -Check to see if you are on the schedule to serve?
- -Receive urgent information from the homepage red banner? This red banner will let you know up upcoming events as well as if service has been cancelled due to inclement weather.
- -Read a back issue of The Window.
- -Read the latest bulletin of a sermon you missed.

So if you haven't yet, I invite you to take a minute or

two and look around our new website. You can find it at www.westminsterpeoria.org Let me know what you think of our website or if there is something you'd like to see added to the website. Send me an email at communications@westminsterpeoria.org

Our Mission at Westminster



Click to read this month's issue!

4	T ****	18 III	25			
3	MICC Treasure Attic Sale	Window Deadline 17 7pm Presbytery 1 Baseball Night Peoria Chiefs Stadium	24 2pm - 5pm - Camp	5pm - Dinner 6pm Concert		
		Wing		5pm 6pm		
9:30am Lectionary Bible Study	9:30am Lectionary Bible Study	16 9:30am Lectionary Bible Study	No Lectionary Bible Study	8:30 am - 2pm	9:30am Lectionary Bible Study	***
7:30am Men's Coffee Hour 10am Staff Mtg	7:30am Men's Coffee Hour 10am Staff Mtg	15 7:30am Men's Coffee Hour 10am Staff Mtg 12pm Finance Mtg	7:30am Men's Coffee Hour 10am Staff Mtg	8:30 am - 2pm	7:30am Men's Coffee Hour 10am Staff Mtg	17
	7 for the food pantry	6:30pm Session Mtg	21:30 Food Delivery for the food pantry	8:30 am - 2pm	28	
	9am WestMark Food Pantry Open 1:15pm Food Delivery for food pantry	13 9am WestMark Food Pantry Open	9am WestMark Food Pantry Open	3.30 am - 2pm	9am WestMark Food Pantry Open	
	Communion AM 10am Worship 7:30 pm Bach Festival Opening Concert	12 10am Worship	Father's Day 19		26	

Monday - July 4 - Independence Day

Serving Schedule



SING! WESTMINSTER CHOIR CAMP

By Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

This summer Westminster will host our second Children's Choir camp the week of June 20-24. Returning are Sharon Samuels Reed as the music director and Tom Clark-Jones as accompanist. This year Ryan Rashad Reed will join us as the visual arts instructor and "camp counselor." Jessica Bell will serve as the administrative director.

Last year, being the first year, was a learning experience. I consider last year's camp successful beyond our dreams, but this year will be even better! Peoria School District will again provide the food for lunch and snacks. Here are several ways you can help:

Volunteers are needed in the kitchen to put out the food in the Fellowship Hall and help with clean-up.

Volunteers are needed to be chaperones going to the classes and accompanying children from one class to another.

Volunteers are needed to help with the catered dinner on Friday evening before the concert.

If you are unable to do any of the above, you can:

Attend the Friday evening dinner with the children and their families.

Attend the children's concert at 6:00 on Friday.

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN

CHOIR CAMP

If you are unable to do any of the above, you can donate money. A scholarship for a camper is \$35. Our costs include staff salaries, the Friday dinner, supplies, and gas for the church van and small bus.

Be a part of this great Westminster outreach program for the community!



JUNE 20 THROUGH JUNE 24, 2016

Scholarships are available at \$35 each.
To contribute, please make your check payable to
'WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'
And please write "CHOIR CAMP" on the memo line.

YES! I want to help! Here is my donation to help send children to the Westminster Sing! Choir Camp.

Name:	
Donation Amount \$	

Mail to: WPC, Westminster Choir Camp, 1420 W. Moss Avenue, Peoria, IL 61606

Thank You!



Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Peoria, IL Permit No. 792

1420 W. Moss Avenue Peoria, Illinois 61606

309.673.8501 Office 309.673.6708 Fax

wpcpeoria@gmail.com www.westminsterpeoria.org

Open Hands,

Open Hearts,

Open Minds.

JULY "WINDOW" DEADLINE - FRIDAY, JUNE 17

See you in August! We're coming back!

